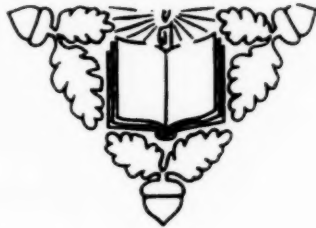


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Vol. 16, Series II

July, 1959

Number 1

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ARKANSAS LIBRARY COMMISSION

In Co-operation With

ARKANSAS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Arkansas Libraries

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ARKANSAS LIBRARY COMMISSION

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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK



LaNell Compton

Knowing how busy all of us in libraries are these days, I hope you will not think it presumptuous if I suggest that we sit down and think together a few moments, to mull over the situation a little and to face a few of the facts of life.

It seems to me that we should try for perspective now, of all times — instead of narrowing our sights. I think the public library service field in this country stands at the gateway of the boldest and broadest challenge that has ever confronted our profession. It is imperative for all librarians to realize that we must become full-fledged, top-flight professionals. We must learn to look past the trees surrounding us to the great forest that is directly ahead of us.

As librarians we are faced with the job not only of working for new library facilities, improved ways of get-

ting the work done, and getting more books to more people. Our place is in line with other professions — ministers, doctors, lawyers, teachers, social workers — who are all working in a vast, complex yet coordinated effort toward the over-all social and individual betterment of people. The challenge of the world crisis is ripe with opportunity for librarians in this country, since other countries of the world are looking to our library profession for leadership, just as they look to us for leadership in so many fields.

Such are my sentiments. If you think I am exaggerating the case, try reading some of the stuff I've been getting hold of lately. It is enough to make anybody do some thinking.

As ALA President Emerson Greenaway* has pointed out, "Librarians in our own day, . . . no longer content to satisfy, . . . must now **stimulate**. If the community does not come to their doorstep, they must go out to the community. We have all learned, much later than business or industry, that 'it pays to advertise'."

As libraries go, we have accomplished a great deal in our state, but surely there is much to be done. For watchwords for librarianship in Arkansas, may we suggest these four goals: (1) Literacy. (2) Concern. (3) Conviction. (4) Action.

Problems and questions, like wars, are settled first in the minds of individuals. As librarians, have we decided what we are to do about some of the modern facts of life, how we will muster leadership to help our citizens meet the challenges of automation? the growth of leisure time and longevity in this country? the general rise in the standard of living everywhere? the leadership of the United States in world affairs, the exploration of space? the use of nuclear

*President Greenaway's remarks are quoted here as they appeared in Miss Marie De Loiseaux's "Talking Shop" column in the May 1959 issue of *Wilson Library Bulletin*.

energy for peaceful purposes? the imperative for international cooperation?

Our work may be considered as a prolonged effort to bring our people to a sense of discovery and to the discriminating enjoyment of the fruits of their own knowledge and tastes as individuals. We quote from the final paragraph of a pertinent article, page 497 ff., June 1959 ALA BULLETIN, entitled "What Do You Mean—Public Library?":

"The real 'battle for men's minds' ... is not the one the newspapers talk about. It is the battle, here at home, in all our home towns, to energize and activate the minds of influential men to work with the tools of the mind on the problems of all men. In a democracy above all, in a society in which the citizens must know how to control the decisions by which they agree to be controlled, the battlefield

is our own community; and the tactics are those of continual working together, thinking together, understanding together. Then our 'relations' are truly **public**. When we have seen clearly what such a public is, and how it is to come into being, we shall see clearly what a library is. Then, in your 'relations' with **that** public, you will be trustees [and librarians] in very truth."*

We hope that all of you will read and re-read this article in preparation for our workshop this summer. Please have your ideas and your answers to these questions on tap when you come to the workshop sessions for public libraries or school libraries in Fayetteville in August. We are delighted with the prospect of having Mrs. Grace Stevenson and Miss Mary Helen Mahar here to guide us through these sessions. We hope to see you in Fayetteville.

ARKANSAS RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL LIBRARY DEDICATES NEW BUILDING

by Alma Lea Snow, Librarian

Arkansas River Valley Regional Library held the dedication of its new headquarters library building at Dardanelle on Sunday, April 12, 1959. Construction of the building was made possible through the generosity of Judge Morris Moore and the Yell County Quorum Court.

Preceding the dedication ceremonies at 2 p. m., a buffet style luncheon was served on the courthouse lawn, and the concert band of Arkansas Polytechnic College, Russellville, gave a concert under the direction of Gene Witherspoon. The program was opened with the invocation by Rev. O. D. Peters, pastor of the First Methodist Church in Dardanelle. Harold Snyder, a Dardanelle businessman, gave the address of welcome to the group of more than 400 prospective

library patrons and guests, visiting librarians and library trustees who had come together for the occasion. Mrs. Alfred Crabaugh, Russellville, a member of the board of trustees for the new five-county set-up, made the introduction of guests. Another member of the regional board, Mrs. John Lowe, Briggsville, outlined the history of the Arkansas River Valley Regional Library. Ewing Pyeatt, Searcy banker who served as chairman of the 1959 National Library Week activities in Arkansas, introduced the principal speaker, Rollo Asmussen, president of the Clary Corporation of Searcy. Mr. Asmussen in his address emphasized the fact that libraries are economic assets to their communities, as well as cultural assets. Judge Moore presented the

*Author of the article is John Walker Powell, consultant to study-discussion program development of the Fund for Adult Education.



Judge and Mrs. Morris Moore are shown at the front entrance of the new Arkansas River Valley Regional Library, Dardanelle.

keys of the new library building to the regional librarian, Mrs. Calvin Snow, Dardanelle. The library was formally opened to the public after a ribbon-cutting ceremony in which Judge Moore was assisted by Mrs. Crabaugh and Mrs. Merlin Moore, Little Rock, chairman, Arkansas Library Commission.

The building is 40' x 90', a modern structure of concrete blocks with stucco finish. Walls are a soft shade

of green, with ceiling of acoustical tile and brown tile flooring. Equipment includes standard double faced adjustable metal library shelving, kitchenette and storage space, and an area for community organization meetings. The regional library now has a collection of more than 10,000 books, and a bookmobile which serves schools and nine established library branches within the five-county region. Albert Hill, Scranton, is chairman of the regional library board.

BRADLEY COUNTY LIBRARY DEDICATION JANUARY 15, 1959

A Talk by Du Val L. Purkins*

From ancient times it has been the custom of enlightened people to dedicate by solemn proclamation the setting apart of something for the use and benefit of the community. Today

we are met to so dedicate Bradley County's Library.

This county's oldest civic club, now called, "The Woman's Club," and a

*Mr. Purkins, an attorney, and Mrs. Purkins, now residing in Lake Village, were residents of Warren from 1922-1958, during the time the library grew from a Woman's Club Library to a county library. As a member of the Library Committee of the Warren Woman's Club, Mrs. Purkins assisted with the development of the countywide program.

distinguished Bradley countian, Mrs. Karl Neal, now Secretary of the Arkansas Library Commission, should be recognized for the idea and the accomplishment of that which we would now proclaim and dedicate to the public's use. In 1731, it was a man, Ben Franklin, who first gave to Americans the idea of the public library. In 1848 by law the people of Boston, Massachusetts, first had a public library of the kind we now have established in our county.

A library contains a collection of written or printed literature. According to *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, the word implies "an advanced and elaborate civilization." The library is as old as civilization itself. Now in the British Museum in London is a substantial part of the library once at Nineveh, the last capitol of the Assyrian Empire. Libraries were in ancient Egypt, Babylonia, and later in Greece, Rome, and in Europe during the medieval era. They are now throughout the civilized world.

The history of the library suggests that debatable issue: "Is the pen mightier than the sword?" Certainly, the wisdom of the ages, written on stone, papyrus, and the printed page, is still alive. The military might of Ghengis Khans, Alexanders, Caesars and Napoleons, like meteors, has long since passed into the limbo of the lost. And so, the dedication of Bradley County's first public library reflects honor and credit to the foresight and vision of those young matrons who organized the "Mother's Self Culture Club" in Warren in the fall of 1916.

This club now has the name of "Warren's Woman's Club." In 1926 the club voted to establish a library as a project, with the late Mrs. W. F. Rogers as chairman of the first library committee. In 1927 Mrs. Lee Martin, now a member of the Arkansas Library Commission, succeeded Mrs. Rogers as chairman of this committee until 1940, when Mrs. Louis Ederington took her place and served in that capacity until 1956.

In attaining its object, the committee first let its books from the home of Mrs. Martin. Later, Mr. S. B. Meed donated a vacant room in his building downtown and on June 15, 1927, Warren's first public library opened with 449 books — all donated by citizens of Warren. With one gift of \$100.00 by the late J. R. Gannaway, the Warren's Woman's Club faithfully carried on its library project until 1956. In 1931, the library was moved to this place where we now meet in the remodelled and attractive surroundings.

In 1935 by Act of the General Assembly, there was created the Arkansas Library Commission. Since 1952 Mrs. Karl Neal has been its Secretary. In 1951 Mrs. Lee Martin was first appointed by Governor Sidney McMath as one of the seven members of the Commission.

With two former Bradley countians in key positions with such an important state agency, there can be no doubt but that each one was concerned because our citizens were so slow to take advantage of the law authorizing a county library.

Once more Warren's Woman's Club took the initiative. Through the efforts of the club's library committee the question was submitted to the people in the general election of 1954. By a small vote, our citizens failed to adopt the small millage tax. The club would not be discouraged. In 1956, when Mrs. George F. Wynne was president of the club, its library committee, then composed of Mrs. Louis Ederington, Mrs. D. L. Purkins, Mrs. W. A. Tarpley, Mrs. S. B. Anders, Mrs. Brown Appleton and Miss Geneva Neal took the lead in having the matter resubmitted to the people. The majority of the voters then approved.

Promptly, County Judge Watt Childs appointed the County Library Commission, consisting of Mrs. L. W. Ederington, Mrs. G. F. Wynne, Mrs. J. C. Thompson, Mrs. Edna Forest, R. L. Newton, Jr., and Judge Clint Huey, who with the Honorable Alvin Doggett, the present county judge,

now have the privilege of directing the affairs of our library.

Today, we are here first to honor those to whom this county will always be indebted for their vision, toil and personal sacrifices in making possible this place, its contents and its promise in an age-old way of educating and improving our social, economic, scientific and spiritual lot as a community. Second, to consecrate and dedicate this latest institution to the glory of God and to the welfare of the present generation and to our posterity.

It should be both a happy and a solemn occasion. Not by words but by our thoughts and prayers should we be uplifted here.

Leigh Hunt once declared that imagination enriches everything. A great library contains not only books, but the "assembled souls of all men held wise."*

I like that which once appeared as an inscription over an ancient Grecian library: "The Medicine Chest of the Soul."

In our medicine chests are kept those antiseptics and restoratives for use when our physical bodies are in need thereof. It is not easy to separate man's mental processes from his spiritual reactions. Through the endowments and use of man's mind and soul have come the great ideas and inspirations which have healed and helped all men in their struggles to live and their hopes of immortality. And so, libraries do contain the wisdom of the ages for man, if he wills to seek and to find that which he needs to insure his own destiny.

Within the libraries excavated from the ruins of ancient empires and civilizations, man's search for God, laws by which he would be governed, and, what he did, how he dressed, how he played and what he thought — all have been found as written in stone or on papyrus. No different from civilized man of the present, those who once lived, but long since have returned to dust, sought the answers to the questions which arose in their

own souls. Thoughtful men and women of an ancient day, the same as they do this day, would have their souls "in tune with the Infinite."

From an idea in writing may flow an inspiration to the mind and to the soul. Coal and oil and other minerals have been said to be "only buried sunlight." Electric power has for its source the waterfall. Wise men of science make use of the soul's medicine chest made up of man's written and preserved words and ideas, and they may react with an electric light bulb or an atom bomb.

May it be suggested that the trouble with modern man may be that out of the medicine chest of the wisdom preserved in the libraries of the world today he has lifted only the antiseptics, and not the restoratives. He has learned how to destroy himself, but has overlooked God as the source of continuing life here and hereafter, the source of light to emblazon his way with a minimum of human friction and disharmony, and the source of inspiration to contribute some bits of wisdom into the medicine chest of God's plan and purpose in our interesting world.

And so on this January 15, 1959, may those of us who are gathered here solemnly dedicate that which may be small in size and content, called the Bradley County Library, but which can be great to ourselves and posterity if we look upon it as one more gift of God and draw from its contents that which makes it a real Medicine Chest for the Soul.

In our thanksgivings, may we recall those who were members of "The Mother's Self Culture Club," "The Woman's Club," and the devoted members of its library committees, who for more than one generation have dreamed and worked for the establishment of this county public library we dedicate to the use of our citizens this day.

"I love vast libraries, yet there is a doubt, If one be better with them or without, Unless he use them wisely, and, indeed, Knows the high art of what and how to read." — J. G. Saxe — **The Library.**

*A quotation from the English poet, Sir William D'Avenant.



**Mrs. Merlin M. Moore Receives
Two Awards**

Mrs. Merlin M. Moore, chairman of the Arkansas Library Commission since 1951, has recently received two outstanding awards. At the annual banquet of the Arkansas Junior Chamber of Commerce, on the evening of May 24, Mrs. Moore was presented with the C. E. Palmer Distinguished Service Award, which is given yearly to an eminent Arkansan for civic accomplishments. Previous winners of the trophy include Winthrop Rockefeller, C. Hamilton Moses, and U. S. Senator John L. McClellan. Presentation to Mrs. Moore was made by Cecil U. Edmonds of West Memphis, last year's winner. The Palmer Award was inaugurated eighteen years ago. Mrs. Moore is the first woman to win the award.

The University of Arkansas conferred upon Mrs. Moore the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws at the commencement exercises in Fayetteville on May 30. University sources stated that the degree was given in recognition of her contributions to the field of education, with special reference to her service to public libraries of Arkansas and the nation.

Mrs. Moore is completing a two-year term as president of the Ameri-

can Association of Library Trustees, a division of the American Library Association. As president she has presided at two annual meetings and two midwinter meetings of the national trustees group. During her administration the American Association of Library Trustees has initiated a program of action for library trustees and the publication of a national trustee bulletin.

During May of this year she and other members of the Arkansas Library Commission participated in six one-day institutes for library trustees in Arkansas sponsored jointly by the Arkansas Library Commission and the Arkansas Library Association.

Mrs. Almon Faught, Jonesboro, a member of the Arkansas Library Commission since 1951, is chairman of the Mayor's Committee on Hiring the Handicapped in Jonesboro. At a dinner meeting at Hotel Noble recently,



Mrs. Almon Faught, Jonesboro church and civic leader, is trustee, Arkansas Library Commission.

an idea for "Project Open Door" to make local public buildings more ac-

cessible to physically handicapped persons was introduced.

One of Arkansas's leading business women, Mrs. Faught operates extensive farm interests near Jonesboro, where she has been prominent as a church and civic leader for several years. She is vice-chairman of the State Democratic Central Committee in Arkansas, and also vice-chairman of the Governor's Committee on Employment of Older Workers.

Mrs. Faught is the only library

trustee from Arkansas (and the only Jonesboro resident) listed in the first edition of WHO'S WHO OF AMERICAN WOMEN recently published by the Marquis-Who's Who, Inc., of Chicago, Illinois.

Mrs. Faught has been appointed to represent the Employment Security Division, and to represent the Labor Department for the state at the ALA Older Workers Institute in Washington. She will also represent the Business & Professional Women's Clubs.

DISPOSAL OF UNNEEDED PUBLICATIONS IN A PUBLIC LIBRARY

Raymond H. Shove*

Associate Professor, Division of Library Instruction, University of
Minnesota

Almost all libraries have books on their shelves which have outlived their usefulness. No doubt, also, many libraries with a too liberal policy in adding gifts have books which never were very useful.

The Library Division of the State Department of Education in Minnesota and similar organizations in other states have for many years stressed not only the importance of careful selection of books, whether gifts or purchases, but also the necessity for a continuous weeding of those books which for various reasons are no longer needed. The problem is an important one, particularly pertinent for public, school, and college libraries, which best serve their patrons with usable, live books of good quality. In recent years even the large research libraries of the country, faced with situations arising from their rapid growth during the past half century, have found it necessary to pay more attention to selection and to weeding, even where such cooperative arrangements as the Farmington

Plan and regional storage centers have been made.

This article is intended to be of assistance to libraries, particularly to small public libraries, in the disposal of books that have either been weeded from the library or set aside from gift collections, and at the same time to give some consideration to the selection of such material for disposal.

There is naturally, no one way of disposing of unneeded publications that is best under all circumstances and for all libraries. The type, quality, condition, and amount will often be the determining factors.

I

Listed below are several suggested methods of book disposal.

1. Sale to booksellers.
2. Gift, exchange, or sale to other libraries.
3. Consign for sale at book auction house.
4. Sale to public.
5. Offer to public without charge.
6. Put in storage.
7. Waste paper.

*This article which appeared in the September, 1952 issue of MINNESOTA LIBRARIES, is here reprinted by permission of the author. The many requests received by Arkansas Library Commission for professional evaluation of old books led to the request for permission to reprint the article which is still considered timely.

1. Sale to booksellers.

The common practice is either to invite booksellers in to look over the material or to make up lists and send them to those dealers most likely to be interested. Some librarians prefer the former method, because it may require the least amount of time and effort. Except in unusual cases, the opportunity to invite booksellers in is possible only in libraries near or in metropolitan areas, since there are comparatively few dealers outside those areas.

If the material to be disposed of is known or thought to be of considerable value, lists can be made and sent to various dealers. They may be sent to dealers nearest the library, but dealers in the country's most important bookselling centers, such as Boston, Chicago, and especially New York, are more likely to be in a position to use a wider variety of publications, and they usually pay the best prices. If the material is known to be of little value, there is no point in spending the time and effort in making up lists. In some instances, the librarian may just not know whether the material has commercial value and will prefer to prepare lists. Another possibility is to list a few of the most important items and give a general description of the remainder.

Most dealers do not hesitate to quote prices that they will pay for items in which they are interested, if the items are carefully described. According to one bookseller, a few dealers may be found who are wary of quoting prices to libraries. They explain this by saying "they may want to sell books to them some day, and many librarians do not understand all the factors that go into the marking up of out-of-print books."

2. Gift, exchange, or sale to other libraries.

Books and other publications not needed in one library can sometimes be used in another library, and many librarians feel that this possibility should be given first consideration.

It is almost certain that books weeded from the collection of one small public library will not be useful in another small public library, although the possibility cannot be completely discounted. For example, one library may have material relating to a neighboring community which would be more useful in the library of that community. It may occasionally happen that books weeded from one library may be useful in a neighboring public or county library with more extensive collections, or the larger library may weed duplicates of books that would be useful in a smaller library. The cooperative exchange of duplicates which come to the library as gifts may occasionally be advantageous. Of course, the transactions may be carried out by sale or by gift.

We should not delude ourselves, however, about the usefulness of library discards. Except for duplicates, books not needed in one small public library will not often be useful in another such library. There is a possibility, though, that they may be useful in a research library. In Minnesota, the two largest research libraries are the University Library and the Historical Society Library. The collections of the Historical Society Library are naturally much more limited in scope than are those of the University Library, consisting primarily of American history materials, particularly those relating to Minnesota. The University Library, and this is true of all large university libraries, must have materials in almost every field of knowledge. In some fields it must have not only the best books but also those of lesser importance. For example, a university with a large and active group of faculty members and graduate students doing research in American literature must have available more than the best books of the best American writers. Not only does such a library need the complete works of the best authors, but also a representative selection of the books of less important authors. The needs of research are so varied that to at-

tempt to indicate particular books that the University Library is interested in acquiring would be misleading and inadequate. Books, magazines, pamphlets, and documents on almost any subject and in any language may be useful. This is not to suggest that the University Library is uncritical of the materials it adds to its collections, for like the small public library it is primarily interested in quality.

The small library will not often have unneeded publications, even from gift collections, that will be needed in a large research library, so that it is not a question of offering large quantities of materials, but occasionally unusual items. Ordinarily such items are turned over to the research library as gifts, but most research libraries are also willing to purchase those which have commercial value.

3. Consign for sale at book auction house.

It is improbable that a public library, and particularly a small one, will weed from its collection publication of sufficient commercial value to warrant sale by a book auction house. It is conceivable, however, that a library might receive by gift a collection of books at least part of which it would not need, and which could best be disposed of by sale at auction. Examples are important first editions, Americana, a specialized collection in a subject field, etc. Materials of this nature can, of course, be disposed of in other ways, but in certain instances the best prices may be realized by sale at auction. The auction house ordinarily charges about a dollar for each separate listing, or lot, in its catalog, and takes twenty percent commission on all sales. Thus, sale at auction is usually advantageous only for items of considerable commercial value, although it is possible to put together in a lot several lower-priced items that it would not pay to list separately.

Buyers from auction catalogs include libraries and individual collec-

tors as well as booksellers, and in many instances the prices realized represent retail prices. It is understood, of course, that the price an item will bring cannot be foretold, and it is possible that after the overhead expenses are deducted, the net return will be less than by sale to another library, a bookseller, or an individual collector.

Even though a library may never sell books at auction, the librarian may on occasion suggest the possibility to individuals planning to dispose of books of commercial value.

To a certain extent, auction houses can be classified according to the commercial value of the books they usually offer for sale. For names see list at the end of this article.

4. Sale to public.

The sale of unneeded books to the public does not seem to be widely practiced in public libraries, although in colleges and universities selling to students and faculty appears to be gaining in favor. Such sales may furnish the library with funds for book purchases, but, perhaps even more important, it may promote the personal ownership of books.

Sales to the public must not be a means of palming off worn-out, poor, or obsolete books. Unneeded duplicates, gift books of good quality unlikely to receive sufficient use to warrant their addition to the library, or similar books weeded from the library might be worth distributing in this way if no better disposition can be made.

This mention of sale to the public should not be interpreted as a recommendation. What little information is available in print on the subject is not favorable to the plan, although, as mentioned above, such sales in colleges are gaining in popularity. Among the problems that must be considered is that of gifts, and care should be taken to make certain that the donor will not object to such a sale. Library ownership marks should be cancelled in some way to

show that the books are no longer library property.

The author will be pleased to hear of experiences any public libraries have had with book sales to the public.

5. Offer to public without charge.

There would seem to be little to be said in favor of such a policy, although there has been at least one report of a library which offered discards to the public free of charge.*

If books are of such poor quality or are in such dilapidated condition that they have no sale value whatever, a library is likely to be doing a disservice, rather than providing a useful service, by distributing them in the community. If a book is worth owning, it should be worth paying for, even though the price be a nominal one.

6. Put in storage.

If for any reason the librarian is hesitant or unable to make final disposition of publications of questionable use or value, she may follow the increasingly popular practice of taking such material off the main shelves and placing it in separate storage, possibly in the basement, until a decision can be reached.

7. Waste Paper.

Most experienced book buyers have had brought to their attention instances where important and valuable books, pamphlets, periodicals, and documents which should have been preserved have been disposed of as waste paper. Fortunately this seldom happens in our public libraries. As a matter of fact, librarians or their library boards are frequently too prone to preserve publications which have outlived their usefulness. Reverence for the printed word is an admirable quality when tempered by the realization that not all publications deserve the same degree of re-

spect. Many publications should be returned to the pulp mill. Usually the librarian will be able to recognize those which should be preserved, but if she is in doubt, she should seek the advice of booksellers, other librarians, or individuals in the community who are informed on the subject matter in question. In Minnesota, the Library Division, the University Library, and the Historical Society Library are always glad to be of assistance.

For convenience the materials in this section are divided into four groups: Sets, Magazines, Public Documents, Individual Volumes.

Sets

Although there is common agreement that libraries need weeding, there is little information on actual titles that should be discarded. The enormity of the task is at least a partial explanation.

In the case of multiple volume sets of books, however, it seemed to the author that it might be feasible to prepare a list of titles which for various reasons are of so little use that they might well be discarded from most libraries and particularly from the small public library. Such a list was prepared in 1945.

An additional purpose was to let librarians of the state know that these sets were already in the University of Minnesota Library, most of them for specialized research purposes, and that because of their limited usefulness, additional copies could not be accepted as gifts for exchange purposes. Knowing of their availability, it was felt that the small libraries would feel freer to discard any they might have on their shelves.

Other librarians examined the list, but, in order to test its reliability in another way, copies were sent to most of the well-known dealers that handle sets. It is generally agreed that there

*"Books, old and new." Virginia libraries, II (April, 1929), 9-10. How the Charlottesville Public Library put discarded books out in bins, inviting the public to "take one."

is a close relationship between the commercial value of a set, or most books for that matter, and its usefulness in a library. If a set of books has little or no commercial value, it is unlikely that it will be sufficiently useful in a small public library to warrant keeping on the shelves. The above mentioned dealers were asked to report on the soundness of listings and to indicate any they would buy. Agreement on the listings was almost unanimous, and no dealer indicated an interest in buying any set on the list.

As a further test, two additional lists were prepared. The second (List B) contained sets judged to be more useful and a third (List C) included some of those most frequently used. There was general agreement by the dealers on these two lists, although, as expected, some difference of opinion as to whether a particular set should be on List C rather than B, or the other way around. A few sets were relegated to List A. No set was retained on Lists B or C unless dealers indicated they had commercial value.

The results of the above survey appeared in the March, 1945, issue of *Minnesota Libraries*. Recently, after a lapse of some seven years, it has been thought desirable to make the lists available again. They were again submitted to dealers, with the result that several sets have been moved from B to A (of little or no commercial value), a few from C to B, and of particular interest is the moving of four historical sets, including *American history told by contemporaries*, from B to C.

List A

Included here are the aged, obsolete, ineffective and generally unproductive sets which, while some may be of occasional use in a research library, should be discarded by a small public library. They have little or no commercial value, and if a library has

no other way of disposing of them they can perhaps best serve their destiny by being sent to the paper mill.

Alexander Hamilton Institute library of modern business. 1931 26v

Appleton's cyclopedia of American biography. 1887-1889 6v (For later eds., see List C)

***Beaux and belles of England.** n. d. 14v

Book of history. Grolier Society. n. d. 18v

Book of knowledge. 1939 20v in 10
Carpenter's world travels, ed. by Frank G. Carpenter. 1927 20v

Chambers' encyclopedia. 1884 10v

Children's hour, by Eva March Tappan. n.d. 15v

Collier's new encyclopedia. 1926 10v
Not to be confused with the excellent new **Collier's encyclopedia.** 1949-51

Copeland's treasury for book lovers. 1929 5v

Crane classics, by Frank Crane. 1923 12v

Cyclopedia of world's great literature, ed. by Harry Thurston Peck. 1901 20v

Delphian course. 1922 10v

Encyclopedia Americana. The older editions are not very useful and in little demand. (See list C for later editions.)

Encyclopedia Britannica. 9th ed. This edition of the Britannica was published before the international copyright act in 1891, was reprinted by several American publishers and widely distributed throughout the country. Although it contains much excellent material, the set as a whole is too old to be generally useful and has been superseded by later editions. Useful in a research library but the supply greatly exceeds the demand. Has little market value. (See List C for later editions.)

***Famous women of the French court,** by Imbert de Saint-Amand. 1901 15v

Funk and Wagnall's new standard encyclopedia of universal knowledge. 1935 25v

*One dealer makes the following comment on the items marked with asterisk: "These titles were occasionally bound in fine morocco leather. When in fine condition are saleable as 'furniture.'"

- Great crises in our history told by its makers, 1925 12v
 Great novels crowned by the French Academy. 1897 20v
 Harper's encyclopedia of United States history. 1902 10v; 1905 10v; 1915 10v
 Harvard classics shelf of fiction. n.d. 20v
 History and progress of the world, ed. by Edgar Sanderson and others. 1917 10v
 History of nations, ed. by Henry Cabot Lodge. 1906 24v
 History of the United States, by J. C. Ridpath. 1902 5v
 History of the United States of America, by H. W. Elson. 1905 5v
 International library of masterpieces, ed. by Harry T. Peck. 1901 30v
 International reference work. 1927 10v
 Irish literature, ed. by Justin McCarthy. 1904 10v
 Johnson's universal cyclopedia. 1895 11v
 Journeys through bookland, ed. by Charles H. Sylvester. 1922 10v
 Lectures, by J. L. Stoddard. 1910 15v
 Library of American literature, by Steadman and Hutchinson. 1888-90 11v (one dealer suggests this might go in List B)
 Library of choice literature. Prose and poetry of all nations, ed. by A. R. Spofford. 1895 10v
 Library of historic characters and famous events, ed. by A. R. Spofford and others. 1905 12v
 Library of natural history, by Richard Lydekker. 1904 5v
 Library of oratory, ed. by Chauncey M. Depew. 1902 15v
 Library of wit and humor, ed. by A. R. Spofford and R. E. Shapley. 1910 5v
 Little journeys to the homes of the great, by Elbert Hubbard. n.d. 14v
 Literary Digest history of the World War. 1920 10v
 *Lives of the queens of England, by Agnes Strickland. 1871 7v; 16v
 Louisiana and the Fair, ed. by J. W. Buel. 1904 8v
 *Masterpieces of fiction crowned by the French Academy. 1927 20v
 *Memoirs and secret chronicles of the courts of Europe. 1901 11v
 *Memoirs of the court of France. 1903 20v
 Messages and papers of the presidents. 1897 20v; 1913 20v in 10; 1918 20v. One of the most widely distributed sets, in little demand.
 Modern merchandising, by Alexander Hamilton Institute. 1927 10v.
 *Mysteries of the court of London, by G. W. Reynolds. 1900 10v; 20v in 10
 Nations of the world. 1898 60v
 Nelson's perpetual loose leaf encyclopedia. 1923 12v; 1929 12v
 New international encyclopedia. 1903 18v; 1909 23v (for later ed. see List B)
 New students reference work for teachers, ed. by C. B. Beach and F. M. McMurray. 1918 6v
 Outline of science, by John Arthur Thompson. n.d. 4v (One dealer would put this in List B)
 Pocket university. 1924 23v
 Popular science library, ed. by Garrett P. Serviss. 1922 17v
 Presidential messages and state papers, ed. by Julius W. Muller. 1917 10v
 Progress of nations. 1930 10v
 Real America in romance, ed. by Edwin Markham. 1914-27 15v
 Ridpath library of universal literature. 1899 25v
 *Romances of royalty. Dramas and tragedies of chivalric France. 1909 13v
 Scribner's popular history of the United States, by W. C. Bryant and others. 1876 4v; 1897 5v
 *Secret memoirs of the courts of Europe. 10v; 20v; 24v
 Source records of the Great War, ed. by Charles F. Horne. 1920 7v
 Travelogues, by Burton Holmes. 1908 10v
 United States, its beginning, progress and modern development, ed. by Edwin Wiley. 1912 11v
 Universal anthology, ed. by Richard Garnett and others. 1899 33v
 Universal classics library. 1901 10v; 30v
 University library, ed. by J. H. Finley and N. Braddy. 1928 26v
 University musical encyclopedia, ed. by L. C. Elson. 1912 10v

Winston's cumulative encyclopedia. 1914 10v
Wit and humor of America. ed. by M. P. Wilder, n.d. 10v
With the world's people, by J. C. Ridpath. 1914 12v
Women in all ages and all countries. 1908 10v
World and its people. 1925 7v
World's best essays, ed. by D. J. Brewer. 1908 10v
World's best orations, ed. by D. J. Brewer. 1899 10v
World's fifty best short novels, ed. by Grant Overton. 10v
World's orators, ed. by Guy C. Lee. 1903 10v
World's wit and humor. 1906 15v
Young folk's library, ed. by Thomas Bailey Aldrich. 1902 20v

List B

The sets listed here are not those in most demand in libraries or by booksellers, but they are more useful than those in List A. If a library has good sets of these or similar sets it does not want to retain, they can be sold to dealers at moderate prices, although difficulty may be encountered in locating a dealer interested in some of them.

It is important to remember that the price a dealer can afford to pay in relation to the price at which he expects to sell them depends largely on their demand. No standard price can be set, although in many instances it would perhaps range from \$.50 to \$1.00 a volume.

American statesmen, ed. by J. T. Morse, Jr., 32v; 41v
Anglo-Saxon classics. 1906 15v
Antique gems from the Greek and Latin. 1901 13v
Art of music, by D. G. Mason, 1915 14v (Candidate for List A)
Author's digest, ed. by Roister Johnson. 1908 20v (Candidate for List A)
Bibelot, n.d. 21v
Century dictionary and cyclopedia, with a new atlas of the world. c1911 12v
Columbia University course in literature, ed. by J. W. Cunliffe and others. 1928 18v

Compton's pictured encyclopedia. Early editions have little sale value; late printings are saleable and of course valuable in the library.
Cyclopedia of American agriculture, by Liberty Hyde Bailey. 1907-19 4v
Cyclopedia of American government, ed. by A. C. McLaughlin and A. B. Hart. 1914 3v (Reprinted 1949)
Digest of international law, by John Bassett Moor. 1906 8v (Candidate for List A)
Encyclopedia Biblica, ed. by T. K. Cheyne and J. S. Black. 1899-1903 4v (Also in one volume on India paper, 1914)
Encyclopedia of Canada; general ed. by W. Stewart Wallace. 1935-37 6v
Famous composers and their music, ed. by Theodore Thomas and others. 1901 16v
Harvard classics. 1909 51v
History of Egypt, Chaldea, Syria, Babylonia and Assyria, by G. Maspero n.d. 13v
Illustrated record of English literature, by R. Garnett and E. Gosse. 1903; 1923 4v
Lamb's biographical dictionary of the United States. 1900 7v
Modern eloquence. 1941 Early editions have little sale value. (Candidate for List A)
Narrative and critical history of America, by Justin Winsor. 1889 8v
Nature library. 1908 17v
New international encyclopedia. 2nd ed. 23v Also supplements 1925, v24-25; 1930 2v
Peoples of all nations, ed. by J. A. Hammerton. 1922-24 7v (Candidate for List A)
Photographic history of the Civil War, by Francis T. Miller. 1911 10v
Poems of places, ed. by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. 1876-79 31v
Sacred books and early literature of the East. 1917 14v
Smithsonian scientific series. 12v
Warner library . . . editors: John W. Cunliffe, Ashley H. Thorndike. 1917 30v Earlier edition, under title **Library of the world's best literature,** has little or no sale value.

Wonder of the past, by John Arthur Thompson, n.d. 4v (Candidate for List A)

World book. Various dates. Early editions now of little value; printings of last few years are saleable and of course valuable in the library.

List C

Included here are a few standard sets most likely to be useful in libraries and in demand by booksellers. If a small or medium-sized library has single copies of such sets on its shelves they should, with a few exceptions, be retained. Among exceptions, if a library has late editions of the **Americana** and **Britannica**, it is not likely it will be necessary to keep earlier editions. If a library has both the **Dictionary of America biography** and **Appleton's cyclopedia of American biography**, the latter will probably not be needed.

Prices a dealer could pay would range from about \$1.00 to \$3.00 or \$4.00 a volume; in a few cases somewhat more than \$4.00 and, in a few, a bit less than \$1.00. Condition is of course important.

Abraham Lincoln, by J. G. Nicolay and John Hay. 1890 12v (B in 1945 List)

American history, told by contemporaries, by A. B. Hart. 1906 5v (B in 1945 List)

Appleton's cyclopedia of American biography. 1898-1900 7v Also revised ed. entitled **Cyclopedia of American biography**. 1915, 1918-31 v1-6, 7-12

Bryan's dictionary of painters and engravers. 1903-5 5v

Cambridge histories. All are in demand at good prices, particularly the original editions.

Catholic encyclopedia. c1907-22 17v
Chronicles of America. v.d. 50v Various eds.

Critical dictionary of English literature, by S. Austin Allibone. 1908 5v

Cyclopedia of education, by Paul Monroe 1911 5v

Cyclopedia of painters and paintings, by J. D. Champlin and C. C. Perkins. 1913 4v

Dictionary of American biography. 1928-37 20v and index (Reprint 1943, 21v, 1946, 11v on this paper.)

Dictionary of American history: James Truslow Adams, ed. in chief. 1st ed., 1940; 2nd ed., 1942 5v and index

Dictionary of anonymous and pseudonymous literature, by S. Halkett and J. Laing. 1926 7v

Dictionary of architecture and building, by Russell Sturgis. 1901 3v

Dictionary of national biography. 1908-19 22v; 2nd and 5th supplements, 1912-49 4v; index and epitome, 1903-13 2v

Dictionary of philosophy and psychology, by James Mark Baldwin. 1901-5 3v in 4

Encyclopedia Americana. Early editions have little sale value and dealers report later printings are in less demand than Britannica.

Encyclopedia Britannica. Eleventh (1911) and later eds. All are in demand, including the handy volume issue of the 11th, 12th and 13th. Value depends on edition, imprint date, and condition, with the latest edition and imprint, of course, having the highest sale value.

Encyclopedia of Islam, ed. by M. Th. Houtsma. 1911-38 4v and supplement.

Encyclopedia of religion and ethics, ed. by James Hastings. 13v In addition to the above, other works edited by Hastings are in demand. These include **Dictionary of the Bible**, **Great texts of the Bible**, and **Dictionary of Christ and the Gospels**.

Encyclopedia of the social sciences. 1930-35 15v

Grove's Dictionary of music and musicians. 3rd ed. 5v Also American supplement, new ed. 1928, and supplementary volume, 1940.

Handbook of American Indians, by F. W. Hodge. 1907 2v

History of the people of the United States, by John B. McMaster. 1911 8v (B in 1945 List)

History of the United States, by Henry Adams. 1930 9v (B in 1945 List)

History of the United States and its people. by E. M. Avery. 1904 7v
Jewish encyclopedia. 1925 12v
Library of literary criticism of English and American authors, by Charles W. Moulton. 1901 8v
Library of Southern literature. 1929 20v in 10
Mythology of all races. 1916-32 13v
National cyclopedia of American biography. 1892-1949 v. 1-35 (In progress)
New English dictionary on historical principles, by Sir James A. H. Murray. 1888-1933 10v and supplement
New Larned history for ready reference. 1922-24 12v
Pageant of America. 1925 15v
Schaff-Herzog encyclopedia of religion and ethics. 1908 12v plus index
Standard cyclopedia of horticulture, by Liberty Hyde Bailey. 1914-17 6v (Re-issue 1947. 3v)

Magazines

Magazines are essential in all libraries, but as they age the amount of use made of them usually diminishes to such an extent that the small public library will find it difficult to justify keeping any but the most-used titles. Regardless of age, periodicals do retain their usefulness for research purposes, and the logical place to preserve them is in the large library, particularly the research library. The small public libraries need not hesitate to dispose of little-used files, knowing that they will be available for use when occasion demands in the large libraries throughout the country. In Minnesota the University Library has complete files of most of the titles commonly found in the smaller libraries in the state and is not interested in securing additional copies.

Except for common, widely distributed titles, such as **Harper's Magazine**, **Atlantic Monthly**, **Scribner's**, and **Century**, the University Library will be pleased to have reports on files of nineteenth century magazines.*

*The Arkansas Library Commission has a copy of this issue available on loan to any library needing it. — Ed.

Magazine dealers are not in unanimous agreement on which titles should be held for sale and which should be sold as waste paper. One dealer writes, "It is pretty generally agreed, however, that the old popular magazines, such as **Harper's**, **Atlantic**, **Scribner's**, and **Century** are now a waste paper proposition. The older magazine dealers like ourselves have a considerable stock of these titles built up over the years. There is very little call for them."

The other eastern dealers replying to an inquiry were in general agreement with the above statement. It is worth reporting, however, that a dealer in Los Angeles, N. A. Koyach, wrote that, "**All Harper's, Century, Scribner, Atlantic** will be bought by me if bound and in good condition. There is a great demand for these again!"

Of current magazines, those titles not usually seen on the newsstands are the ones that are most likely to be in demand by dealers. It should be pointed out, however, that many current popular magazines, such as **Life**, **Time**, **Newsweek** and **Fortune**, having little or no sale value unbound, can often be sold if they are well bound. Whether or not a dealer has a sufficient stock of a title offered is naturally an important determining factor. Thus one dealer may buy a title that another does not need.

Many scientific, technical, scholarly and professional magazines, particularly those of limited circulation, can be sold at good prices. They should not be disposed of as waste paper without first reporting them to dealers specializing in back files.

One of the magazines often offered as a gift to libraries, the **Journal of the American Medical Association**, is widely circulated and has little sale value.

In general, magazines of limited circulation are more likely to have com-

mercial value than those circulated widely.

When offering periodicals for sale, the binding should be described, the beginning and ending volumes with dates and an indication of missing years or issues.

Public Documents

U. S. Documents

Publications of the United States government are valuable in all libraries, from the large research library to the small public library. Although the large research library commonly aims to preserve all such publications, the small public library can afford to keep on its shelves only those that are actively used. Since many large libraries throughout the country, including the University of Minnesota Library, are taking care of their preservation, the small library need have no compunctions in weeding and discarding.

The question occasionally arises as to whether a library should secure permission of the Superintendent of Documents before disposing of United States documents. This is required in official depository libraries, but applies only to those documents that have been sent on deposit; these are the property of the United States Government. In all other cases, whether received by gift or purchase, they are the private property of the library, and may be disposed of at the will of the owner.

As a general rule, odds and ends of most series have little or no commercial value. This is particularly true of the **Congressional Record**, and the Departments of Commerce and Agriculture series. The government does issue publications of basic scientific importance, however, and these are the ones most likely to have commercial value, especially those in the fields of botany, zoology, geology, and anthropology. In constant demand by dealers, for example, are individual volumes of the United States Geological Survey publications, including the U. S. G. S. Bulletins, Water

Supply Papers, Folios, Maps, Professional Papers, and Monographs. One dealer reports that for a few of these they may pay "as high as \$5.00 per item."

Except for early documents, say those issued before 1865, and particularly those before 1850, which have survived in small numbers, age has very little to do with the commercial value of U. S. documents.

In general, early documents, and those in the natural and physical sciences, particularly the natural sciences, should not be disposed of as waste paper before being offered to a dealer or to a research library.

State Documents

Even large research libraries commonly select for acquisition only the most useful documents issued by states other than their own. For the most part, the small public library will find it necessary to restrict its holdings to a few of the most used documents of its own state.

In Minnesota the University Library and Historical Society Library try to keep all Minnesota documents.

State documents most likely to have commercial value include the early ones issued in each state, reports of Constitutional Conventions, and publications dealing with the natural and physical sciences.

Individual Volumes

Attention has been given here primarily to sets and serial publications, although there is perhaps an even greater demand by dealers and large libraries for books published separately. The listing of individual volumes is likely to be a time-consuming, expensive operation, however, and experience has shown that books weeded from a small public library are only occasionally of interest to dealers or to other libraries. Booksellers are more selective in purchasing separate books with library marks than in purchasing marked magazines or documents. As a matter of fact, there is little difference in the com-

mercial value of marked and unmarked files of a desirable magazine.

If a librarian thinks she may have books of interest to a dealer or worthy of preservation in a large library, she may list a few of the best, give a general description of the remainder, and send the information to dealers or to the University Library. It is well to remember that very few books have any value if they are badly worn or have pages missing.

With unmarked gift collections the same procedure can be followed, except in those cases where the librarian is convinced there are many volumes of commercial value. In such a case it may be worthwhile to list all items separately.

A simpler procedure is to call in an established bookseller, but in many localities there are no dealers.

Most booksellers buy and sell books that libraries are interested in buying. A possible exception is Roy's Book Shop in Akron, Ohio, which specializes in juvenile series, most of which are not recommended for circulation in public libraries. (See the September 1941 issue of *Minnesota Libraries* for a list of these series.) These include Victor Appleton's "Tom Swift series," and "Moving picture series," Herbert Carter's "Boy Scout series," the various series by Roy Rockwood, etc. Instead of discarding such books received as gifts, a library may be able to sell them and secure funds to buy more appropriate children's books. Only copies without library marks are saleable.

Book Dealers

One of the most up-to-date lists of antiquarian booksellers is that which appears annually in January in the Permanent Reference Number of the *Antiquarian Bookman*. Subject specialties of each dealer are indicated.*

The dealers listed below include those who responded to my requests

for information, and many provided suggestions useful in the preparation of this article. They are interested both in buying and selling. While they are all well established dealers, listing here is not intended as a recommendation above other dealers, a more complete list of which can be found in the above mentioned issue of the *Antiquarian Bookman*.

Many dealers handle both magazines and documents, and it is not uncommon for one who deals mainly in books to also buy and sell documents and back files of magazines, particularly the latter. A few specialize in sets, but all those listed here under Books handle the type of sets discussed in this article.

Books

Argosy Book Stores, 114 East 59th Street, New York 22, New York.
Barnes and Noble, 105 Fifth Avenue, New York 3, New York.
Bartfield, J. N., 43 West 56th Street, New York 19, New York.
Bassett, F. N., 722 North Orange Drive, Los Angeles 38, California.
Brentano's, 29 South Wabash Avenue, Chicago 3, Illinois.
Cadmus Book Shop, 31 West 46th Street, New York 19, New York.
Carnegie Book Shop, 140 East 59th Street, New York 22, New York.
Clark, Arthur H., Company, P. O. Box 230, Glendale, California.
Colonial Book Service, 45 Fourth Avenue, New York 3, New York.
Elizabethan Bookseller, 508 Madison Street, Waukegan, Illinois.
Henneman, William J., 4707 Western Avenue, Chicago 25, Illinois.
Romaine, Lawrence B., Middleboro, Massachusetts.
Schulte's Book Store, 80 & 82 Fourth Avenue, New York 3, New York.

Documents

Central Book Company, 261 Broadway, New York 7, New York.
Howgate, James C., 128 South Church Street, Schenectady 1, New York.

*The University of Arkansas has need of some magazines. A mimeographed list of most needed titles is being distributed with this bulletin. — Ed.

Lowdermilk, W. H., and Company,
1418 F Street N. W., Washington 4,
D. C.

Magazines

Abrahams Magazine Service, 56 East
13th Street, New York 3, New York.
Bliss, P. and H., Middleton, Connecti-
cut.

Canner, J. S., and Company, 46 Mill-
mont Street, Boston 19, Massachu-
setts.

Faxon, F. W., 83 Francis Street, Bos-
ton 15, Massachusetts.

Fiedler, Henry George, 31-33 East
Tenth Street, New York 3, New
York.

Johnson, Walter J., 125 East 23rd
Street, New York 10, New York.

Kovach, N. A., 712 South Hoover
Street, Los Angeles, California.

Login, B. and Son, 29 East 21st Street,
New York 10, New York.

Rothman, Fred B., and Company, 200
Canal Street, New York 13, New
York.

Auction Houses

American Book Auction, 73 Fourth
Avenue, New York 3, New York.

City Book Auction, 119 East 57th
Street, New York 22, New York.

Parke-Bernet Galleries, 980 Madison
Avenue, New York 21, New York.

Swan Auction Galleries, 146 East 56th
Street, New York 22, New York.

HEADQUARTERS EXPANSION FOR FAULKNER- VAN BUREN REGIONAL LIBRARY

By Dula Reid, Librarian



Faulkner-Van Buren Regional Library Headquarters, Conway, Arkansas

This picture shows new addition recently constructed

It was a notable day, September 1, 1958, when the first stakes were driven for the addition of a room to our library. We had operated in crowded floor and shelving space for so long that our impulses were to rush out and take our turns with pick and shovel!

The addition was made possible through a loan from the Conway Corporation, acquired through recom-

mendation of the Conway City Council. The room, 40' by 38', is made of concrete blocks and is joined to the back of the original building. After a new paint job over the entire building inside and out, there is no tied-on look.

The new wing is used for children and young teen-agers, with five-foot shelf dividers to designate the areas. Reading tables and chairs suitable for

children of different ages are placed accordingly.

The center shelves are made of wood and painted to match the other woodwork. The wall shelving is regular metal library shelving in a rosy color which provides a nice contrast.

The interior of the entire building has been painted a soft green with a white acoustical ceiling. Fluorescent light fixtures are placed throughout both the old and the new sections to further create an appearance of harmony and unity. One corner of the new wing was made into a 12' by 12' office with glass panels which permits a view of the entire room. The room formerly used for the office is now our Arkansas Room and adult reference room.

The upstairs reading room is now available, not only for browsing and adult study, but also for club meetings.

We owe thanks to many people for their generous contributions of time and money in making these better facilities available. Members of the library board gave much of their time in planning and consultation. Local clubs have made donations for the purchase of reading tables, chairs and other furnishings. Business firms and individuals have supplemented these gifts.

Moving day came early in January. The Girl Scouts worked faithfully helping us shift books around until every area took on a new look!

The Conway Garden Club has landscaped the library grounds as its project. All of the city's five garden clubs contribute books to the special garden section called "The Garden Center," which is located upstairs. Another important contribution of the garden clubs is the regular donation of attractive flower arrangements for display in the library.



Four of the young readers — for whom librarian Mrs. Dula Reid is shown arranging the display of picture books in the new wing of the Faulkner-Van Buren Regional Library — have already begun their sampling.

Members of the Junior Chamber of Commerce has erected library signs at both street entrances to the courtyard.

The original building was constructed in 1894 and was for many years the Faulkner county jail. When the present courthouse was built the old jail was renovated and converted into the library. Installation of a central heating and air-

conditioning unit for the downstairs area is a recent improvement.

Appreciation and interest in our new wing and over-all improvements, which provide a more accessible book stock and attractive surroundings, is evidenced by the rapid increase in our circulation. The people in our area of library service have been generous with praise and have wholeheartedly endorsed our accomplishments.

A REGIONAL LIBRARY FOR GARLAND AND MONTGOMERY COUNTIES

Evelyn Belk, Librarian

In November (1958) the people of Montgomery county passed the mill library tax, and a new door was opened to the "wonderful world of books". Now, through the Garland-Montgomery Regional Library setup, with headquarters in Hot Springs, a bookmobile is rolling over territory comprised of the beautiful old hills in this area — a territory new in library service. Many people are happy to have the books they want to read, and the library staff is just as happy to see that they get them. Mrs. Jack Lovell and Mrs. Dorothy Laughlin

are the bookmobile librarians and Ronnie Batterton is the driver-clerk. Mrs. Grace Kennedy is librarian-clerk at Mt. Ida.

During National Library Week open house was held at the branch library at Mt. Ida, as well as at Hot Springs. Both were well attended and citizens showed community interest and cooperation. A sense of pride was felt by all who had had a part in extending the realm and the reach of the influence of good books in the lives of our people through this new Regional Library.

HEMPSTEAD-NEVADA REGIONAL LIBRARY

Hazel Prichard, Librarian

Formation of a regional library to be known as the Hempstead-Nevada Regional Library was decided at a combined session of the Nevada and Hempstead County Library Boards at Hope the evening of March 23. The library will serve a population of 39,861 and an area of 1351 square miles. This expanded program will employ two to four additional full-time workers.

Duncan McRae Jr. of Prescott was named chairman of the Hempstead-Nevada Regional Library Board. Other members of the regional board are: Mrs. B. A. DeLamar, Russell

Moberg, both of Prescott; D. B. Meadors, of Willisville; Mrs. Johnnie Harrison, Rt. 5, Prescott; Mrs. J. T. Adams Jr. of Cale; E. R. Brown, Teddy M. Jones and J. H. Jones of Hope; Norman Jones, Blevins; Charles Reyner-son of Hope and Mrs. Hugh Garner of Spring Hill.

Also attending the meeting were Mrs. Karl Neal and Miss Freddy Schader of the Arkansas Library Commission and County Judge Phles Orren of Prescott.

Mrs. Howard Prichard was named librarian and secretary of the newly

formed board. She was formerly librarian at Conway County Library and White County Library before

coming to Hempstead County Library in 1947.

SOUTHEAST ARKANSAS REGIONAL LIBRARY

Ruth W. Goyne, Librarian

Southeast Arkansas Regional Library was organized as a demonstration library July 1947, with Desha, Drew and Lincoln counties. A room for Regional Library headquarters was provided by Drew county in the Courthouse, Monticello. Under the demonstration, books and some of the salaries were supplied by the Arkansas Library Commission.

All three of the counties now have the library tax. A new library building of hadite block construction was erected in 1954 through the cooperation of Drew county, the city of Monticello and money from the bequests of W. H. McQuiston and Mrs. Mack Wilson. A total of twelve branch libraries had been established by 1956, with deposit stations giving additional service. Schools also receive collections of books.

Chicot county passed the one-mill library tax in November 1958 and

asked to join the Regional Library. At a called meeting in McGehee, members of the Regional Library Board and the new Chicot County Library Board, agreed to work together as a four county regional library unit. Mrs. Karl Neal, state librarian, and Miss Freddy Schader, administrative assistant, Arkansas Library Commission, explained that by extending service to a county with no organized county library service, the Regional Library became eligible for federal funds. Federal money was made available for extension of service to rural areas by the passage of the Library Services Act.

A Gerstenslager Pioneer Bookmobile has been ordered, with delivery promised by July 1. The bookmobile will be used in the rural areas. Mr. and Mrs. Harold Bailey have accepted positions as bookmobile driver and bookmobile librarian respectively.

WHITE RIVER REGIONAL LIBRARY

By Mary Beth Griffith, Librarian

A four-county regional library to be serviced by a bookmobile was formed at a meeting of representatives from the four counties in Batesville March 3, 1959, at a dinner meeting at the Marvin Hotel, followed by a business meeting in the library building. The counties included are Independence, Cleburne, Izard and Stone.

G. H. Moore of Batesville was elected permanent chairman and Mrs. Terry Griffith was named librarian of the new regional library. Two members from each board were named as members of the regional board.

Board chairmen in each county were named as follows: Mr. Moore, Independence; Mrs. John Moose, Cleburne; Ray Givens and Mrs. Howard Jacobs, co-chairmen, Izard County; and Mrs. J. C. Dobbins, Stone.

The cooperation of the four county library boards was signified in the adoption of a two-year contract. Support by the counties, each having voted the one-mill tax, determined the policy of the State Library Commission in granting state and federal aid to the regional set-up.

Headquarters will be maintained in the Independence County Library in Batesville. In Cleburne county the

library headquarters is in the Heber Springs City Hall, while in Stone county the library is in the courthouse at Mountain View. In Izard county there will be two collections of books — one to be known as the county library, in the courthouse at Melbourne; and one to be called the Calico Rock Branch, located on the second floor of the bank building in Calico Rock.

Miss Mildred Stone of Calico Rock will be bookmobile librarian. Mrs. Lavern Coles, on the Independence County Library staff, will be in charge of records and pay rolls.

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK — ARKANSAS PLAN

Report of Annie May Alston, State Chairman for Arkansas

Before the ink was dry on the 1959 report for NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK, the dates were announced for the 1960 observance of THE WEEK—April 3-9. According to John Robling, Director, it is not one minute too early to begin thinking how librarians can convince their publics that this is a most important week for them.

Librarians displayed an unusual initiative and a tireless industry in promoting NLW, but if a single word had to be chosen that would best describe THE WEEK, the choice would fall on that beautiful word, COOPERATION. Never before have librarians owed so much to so many—from the mass communication media of newspapers, magazines, radio and TV, through judges, mayors, through civic, educational, religious, professional, industrial and social groups to all people.

NLW SURVEY 1959

Here is a report of a survey conducted during NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK by a county librarian in one of the larger population centers of the state:

"I have felt that our county people were not using our library as I wanted them to; so as one feature of

Some 1600 books will be carried in the bookmobile which will make scheduled trips into the four counties.

The organization meeting in Batesville was attended by Mrs. Karl Neal, state librarian and executive secretary, and Mrs. Merlin Moore, board chairman of the Arkansas Library Commission. They assisted in the organization of the new regional set-up. This will bring books to hundreds of people who have never before had this type of library service.

Whether it was a dedication of a new regional library building, a book talk, an open house, a story hour, a telecast, a radio spot, a chapel program, a booklist, a library survey, a display of rare books, an eye-catching poster, a mayor's proclamation, a book fair, a trustee luncheon, a local church bulletin, a speech before the Lion's Club, the opening of a new branch of library service—whatever—there was no little contribution to the success of THE WEEK in Arkansas.

As a result of THE WEEK, librarians should feel humbly grateful for the rare privilege that is theirs — that of being vitally involved in a calling which can so win the respect and active support of people from literally every walk of life — people who have this in common — the recognition of the worth of the book and the belief that our very existence may depend on conveying this faith to all men.

Library Week I decided to make a survey to see just what the feeling about the library was in the small towns in the county outside of the county seat.

"As we serve these towns in different ways it was necessary to make three types of questions. We asked

different organizations in the towns to conduct the survey — a PTA group, a Garden Club, a group of women we wanted to interest in the library, and school librarians. In two towns a high school social science class made the survey. We did not contact every family in each town, but tried to get a cross-section from each.

"We found that where we had library branches that practically all questioned knew where the library was located. Where we do not give bookmobile service, more [people] said they would use it if given than said they would not. We had some practical suggestions for improvement of our service, although many did not answer this question in any way. In towns where we have branches or stations the majority questioned said they used the library at least some times. In answer to the question: 'Would it make any difference to you if there was no library in your town?' I am happy to report that only one person asked said, 'no,' to this."

Three different surveys were made in various towns in the county:

—————COUNTY, (OR REGIONAL) LIBRARY 1959 SURVEY
TOWN—————

SOME STATISTICS ON NLW

Newspapers in Arkansas (24 dailies and 61 weeklies) published a total of 230 local stories honoring NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK. Paid advertisements for NLW accounted for only a negligible amount of the newspaper coverage.

Television is still a wide open field for the promotion of the use of libraries by the people of Arkansas. There was only one planned TV program on NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK this year, seven local spot announcements and no paid advertisements.

No advertising was paid for on radio, either, but it is encouraging to know that thirty radio stations in the

Would you and your family use the county library bookmobile if it came to your town regularly every two weeks?

Do you use the county library headquarters in the county seat?

What day of the week and what hour of the day would be most convenient for you, for the bookmobile to come to your town?

What types of books do you like?

* * * * *

Do you know the day of the week the county library bookmobile comes to your town? Do you know the hour?

Does your family use the bookmobile?

Does your family use the headquarters library in the county seat?

What types of books do you read?

* * * * *

Do you know where the public library is in your town?

Have you been in it this year?

Last year?

Do members of your family use the library?

Would it make any difference to you if there was no library in your town?

Give suggestions (if you wish) for improvement in library service.

What types of books do you like?

state used ninety-two local spots and ten planned programs.

Many meetings were held in libraries and in other places outside the library. Participation in promotional activities by colleges and universities and also by elementary and secondary schools was very generous and gratifying. Announcements emphasizing the importance of NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK appeared in church bulletins, and ministers served on local committees. These committees for NLW were organized and accomplished much in cities, counties and other local areas. 293 window displays outside of libraries were reported.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION LIBRARIES

Some suggestions for next year's NLW celebration might include early efforts to contact organizations not directly connected with libraries in an attempt to encourage recognition of the significance of books and the increasingly critical importance of knowledge in various fields throughout their organizational programs.

The use of postage meter slugs as advertising for NLW by business firms would be a great help in promoting the idea next year. Other suggestions for promotion aids are: small stickers for use on envelopes and table menus; automobile stickers; and I-visited-the-Library tags.

GREAT BOOKS DISCUSSION GROUPS

Arkansas has fourteen Great Books groups enjoying discussions regularly. These centers are in Little Rock, Morrilton, Pine Bluff, Camden, Arkansas City, Helena, Marianna, Forrest City, West Memphis, and Blytheville. These groups merely touch the potential of Arkansas. Many other communities should be participating in this stimulating series of discussions.

The Southern Area of which Arkansas is a part has a highly qualified director whose services are available through the Great Books Foundation. The Southern Area director, Howard C. Will, Jr., has been in this area since October, 1958. Librarians are urged to "wake the people" to the marvels of the world's best ideas and literature through the Great Books

groups. Any town, city or small community in which as many as fifteen or twenty people agree to meet, read and discuss these books may have the opportunity. In as far as is possible Mr. Will will be glad to come to these groups and help them get started.

Librarians or groups interested in organizing discussion of the Great Books may receive further information by writing Mrs. Anne Jackson, Public Library Consultant, Arkansas Library Commission, 506 1/2 Center Street, Little Rock, or by writing directly to Howard C. Will, Jr., Southern Area Director, Southwestern Campus, 2000 North Parkway, Memphis 12, Tennessee.

ESO ESTABLISHED NEW CHAPTER IN ARKANSAS

By Lucile K. Farison

For the past two years many women have worked toward the goal of an Epsilon Sigma Omicron chapter in Arkansas — federated club women who have enrolled for the courses and completed the planned reading, personnel of the state and county libraries who have helped outline the courses and have placed the needed books in the libraries, and officers of the Arkansas Federation of Women's Clubs who have administered the program and furnished the necessary encouragement and praise.

Now we have achieved our goal. The General Federation of Women's

Clubs, which sponsors the ESO program, has granted us a charter for Alpha Gamma Chapter in Arkansas. We have 14 members. Twelve became members by completing the reading courses; one by earning 2 semester hours of college credit; and one is an honorary member, in recognition of her services when president of the Arkansas Federation of Women's Clubs. Membership will also be granted to any federated club member earning 2 semester hours credit by TV course.

The reading program is being continued in Arkansas, with 50 members

enrolled. So we will continue to need the cooperation of the librarians in supplying the needed books and encouraging club members to read. But at this moment let's forget the work involved and be proud of our two year's work, for the fourteen members do not tell the full story. Many women who had not read much for years and who may never complete the courses, have had a taste of planned reading and like it. Quite an

unexpected benefit has been the interest non-ESO readers have in our books. The books on the ESO shelf in our county library are much in demand by non-ESO readers because they have found that they are worthwhile books. And so let's rejoice in our achievement before we take a deep breath and start working to build up a large membership in our Alpha Gamma Chapter in Arkansas.

NEWS NOTES

Miss Mary Sue Shepherd, librarian, Pulaski County; Mrs. Mariana McAllister, trustee, Russellville Public Library; Mrs. Karl Neal, executive secretary and librarian, Arkansas Library Commission; Mrs. Anne Jackson, consultant for public and high school libraries, Arkansas Library Commission; and Mrs. Almon Faught, trustee, Arkansas Library Commission are among 97 Arkansans listed in WHO'S WHO OF AMERICAN WOMEN, recently published by Marquis-Who's Who of Chicago, Illinois.

Booneville High School reports that the Booneville Bearcat Bookworms closed their celebration of National Library Week with a luncheon in the library at noon Friday, April 17, at which Mrs. H. W. Markley, Logan county trustee of Arkansas River Valley Regional Library, was honor guest. Other guests attending were Superintendent W. W. Keefe, Mrs. Lowell Guise, and Mrs. S. P. McConnell, mother of the librarian. The teachers have all made special contributions of cars or services to the library club during this school term.

Pansies and violets decorated the tables and place cards were National Library Week bookmarks with the half-awake face and the slogan, "Wake Up And Read!" made by the members for the occasion.

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CARROLL C. HOLLENSWORTH, a Warren attorney and veteran leader in the Arkansas House of Representa-

tives, died in Bradley County Memorial Hospital in Warren on May 19, following a heart attack. Speaker of the House in 1953, Mr. Hollensworth had since then been a floor leader and was one of the most powerful men in the House. As chairman of the Rules Committee, vice chairman of the Legislative Efficiency Committee and member of the Budget Committee, he exercised considerable authority.

He was a friend of the state library program and gave it his support. Librarians in Arkansas have lost a true friend. He is survived by his wife, a son, and a daughter, a granddaughter and a sister.

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The following persons from Arkansas attended the ALA convention in Washington, D. C.:

Miss Gladys Sachse and Mrs. Dula Reid, Conway; Mrs. Merlin Moore, Miss Francis Nix, Miss Jackie Poe, Mrs. Karl Neal, Miss Freddy Schader, Miss Mary Elizabeth Upton, Mrs. Anne Jackson, Miss La Nell Compton, Mrs. T. S. Compton, all of Little Rock; Mrs. Terry Griffith and Mrs. George Terry, Batesville; Mrs. Alfred Cra-
baugh, Russellville; Miss Velma Lee Adams and Miss Florene Jordan, Magnolia; Mrs. Hazel Prichard, Hope; Miss Lucille Slater, El Dorado; Mrs. E. H. Belk, Hot Springs; Miss Kathleen Sharp, Osceola; Mrs. I. C. Oxner, McGehee; Marvin Miller, Fayetteville; Miss Gladys Krone, Fort Smith;

Mrs. W. H. McCain, Cotton Plant; and Mrs. Almon Faught, Jonesboro.

MR. and MRS. LEON LEE of Walnut Ridge are the parents of a son, Benton Ray, born April 27. At last report young Ray tipped the scales at nearly eleven pounds. Mrs. Lee has been librarian of Lawrence County Library for several years.

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GEORGE ALAN ARMSTRONG, eight-year-old grandson of Mrs. Marguerite Amonette, librarian, Southwest Arkansas Regional Library, Nashville, is our latest contest winner. Young Armstrong won a silver dollar and a five dollar bill as first prize in an anonymously sponsored contest for suggestions as to how to sponsor a children's library in his home town of Stuttgart.

His contest entry read as follows: "My grandmother, who is a librarian, sent me this map of public libraries in Arkansas which I have enclosed for you.

"As you can see, Arkansas County does not have countywide library service. I suggest that you write the Arkansas Library Commission, 506½ Center Street, Little Rock, and tell them you are interested in setting up a Children's Library. The Commission has a plan whereby you would not only set up a Children's Library, but **continue to get new books for it.**"

OOPS!

Omission from By-Laws

(5) LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE. This committee shall have charge of arranging facilities for each regular general meeting of the Association, transportation and registration and all other similar duties for meetings as directed by the president. It is authorized to appoint sub-committees to handle exhibits and other similar matters subject to approval of the Executive Board.

Please clip and paste this paragraph on page 9 of your April issue of **Arkansas Libraries.**



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